

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF NORTH CAROLINA
CHARLOTTE DIVISION

CIVIL ACTION NO.: 3:17-cv-130-FDW-DSC

CHRISTOPHER L. PHIFER,

PLAINTIFF,

VS.

NANCY A. BERRYHILL,
ACTING COMMISSIONER OF
SOCIAL SECURITY,

DEFENDANT.

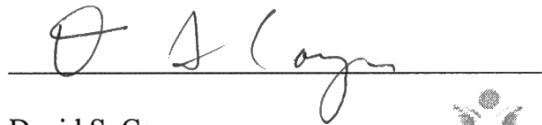
THIS MATTER IS BEFORE THE COURT on Plaintiff's Consent Motion for Fees Pursuant to the Equal Access to Justice Act ("EAJA") 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d)(1)(A) filed on January 17, 2018. Having reviewed the Motion, supporting materials, memorandum in support, and the case file, the Court determines that Plaintiff should be awarded attorney fees under the EAJA in the amount of \$5,316.30.

IT IS ORDERED that Plaintiff's Motion for Fees Under the EAJA is **GRANTED**, to the extent that the Court will award attorney fees in the amount of \$5,316.30, and that pursuant to Comm'r of Soc. Sec. v. Ratliff, 560 U.S. --, 130 S. Ct. 2521 (2010), the fee award will first be subject to offset of any debt Plaintiff may owe to the United States. The Commissioner will determine whether Plaintiff owes a debt to the United States. If so, the debt will be satisfied first, and if any funds remain, they will be made payable to Plaintiff and mailed to Plaintiff's counsel. If the United States Department of the Treasury reports to the Commissioner that the Plaintiff does not owe a federal debt, the Government will exercise its discretion and honor an assignment of

EAJA fees, and pay the awarded fees directly to Plaintiff's counsel. No additional petition pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2412(d) shall be filed.

SO ORDERED.

Signed: January 17, 2018

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "D. S. Cayer", is written over a horizontal line.

David S. Cayer
United States Magistrate Judge

